

January 13, 2021

Dear Hazelwood Central students and families

As we enter the second semester, I am very proud of the accomplishments of our students, families, and staff. Our school community has overcome a multitude of challenges including the pandemic. Our staff continues to strive to create a learning environment where all students feel valued, respected as well as academically and emotionally safe. When this occurs we create an environment where all students and staff can flourish.

Our staff and school community are dedicated to provide the best educational experience for your student. One of the challenges we face as a school community are cell phones. As administrators we visit many classrooms. Frequently, we observe students who are on their cell phones during instruction. Our staff recognizes the challenges cell phones bring to the classroom and understand we must put systems in place to ensure students are engaged in the lesson and not distracted by their phone.

The 2021 – 2022 Student – Parent Handbook and Behavior Guide references cell phones in Policy JG. It states “9-12: If a student brings a cell phone or electronic device to school, it is to be silenced and placed out of sight during class time.” In order to increase engagement, academic success and reduce behavioral incidents we believe that all students must abide by this policy.

Starting on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 all teachers are expected to enforce this policy with fidelity. Any student who violates the policy will receive disciplinary consequences. Those consequences begin by contacting the student’s parent and a conference with their grade level assistant principal. However, if the problem persists the consequences do increase including and up to in school and out of school suspension. Obviously, we hope it does not get to that point and we are asking for your assistance and support in our efforts to ensure everyone abides by the policy.

A partnership between home and the school must exist for us to overcome this challenge. We look forward to another great semester and thank you in advance for your support. For more information please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

Sincerely

Clif Brandon  
Principal (Interim)  
Hazelwood Central High School